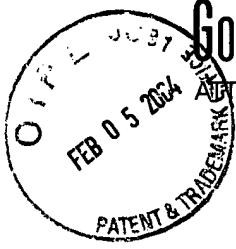




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February 5, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 3736

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/667,609; Filed: September 23, 2003
For: **Catheter Having a Low-Friction Guidewire Lumen and Method of Manufacture**
Inventor: John D. Kantor
Our Ref: PA 1484 (1737.2170001/TUM/RLP)

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. A listing of the cited documents on form PTO-1449; and
3. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Rae Lynn Prengaman
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 53,482

TUM/RLP/lvt

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226826_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

John D. Kantor

Appl. No.: 10/667,609

Filed: September 23, 2003

**For: Catheter Having a Low-Friction
Guidewire Lumen and Method of
Manufacture**

Confirmation No.: 9761

Art Unit: 3736

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: PA 1484
(1737.2170001/TUM/RLP)

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Applicant has listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicant has checked the appropriate boxes below.

- 1. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- 2. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- 3. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

- a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- c. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

4. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:

- a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign

application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

- b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.
- 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:
- 7. A copy of document AB1, is not provided herewith, since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 and the reference is a U.S. Patent document, in accordance with the PTO Notice 1276 Off. Gaz. Pat. Off. 55, published August 5, 2003.
- 8. Copies of documents AA1, AC1-AJ1 were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No.10/226,340,

filed August 23, 2002, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO 1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Date: February 5, 2004

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FORM PTO-1449

PATENT INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
PA 1484 (1737.2170001/TUM/RLP)APPLICATION NO.
10/667,609FIRST NAMED INVENTOR
John D. KantorFILING DATE
September 23, 2003ART UNIT
3736

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA1	4,406,656	09/27/1983	Hattler et al.			
	AB1	4,601,713	07/22/1986	Fuqua			
	AC1	4,668,221	05/26/1987	Luther			
	AD1	4,700,693	10/20/1987	Lia et al.			
	AE1	5,032,113	07/16/1991	Burns			
	AF1	5,163,906	11/17/1992	Ahmadi			
	AG1	5,325,845	07/05/1994	Adair			
	AH1	5,607,404	03/04/1997	Khairkhahan			
	AI1	5,800,414	09/01/1998	Cazal			
	AJ1	5,891,111	04/06/1999	Ismael			
	AK1						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL1						Yes No
	AM1						Yes No
	AN1						Yes No
	AO1						Yes No
	AP1						Yes No

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR	1	
	AS	1	
	AT	1	

EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.